



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release – May 29, 2003

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Agencies Will Discuss Draft EIS About Mountaintop Mining/Valley Fills

A team from federal and state agencies will be available at 1:30 p.m. EDT today (May 29) to answer media queries about a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) which recommends actions to enhance protection for Appalachian streams from effects associated with mountaintop coal mining.

The draft EIS will be available for public review and comment for 90 days beginning tomorrow (May 30).

The draft EIS evaluates a broad range of additional Federal and State actions that are proposed to further prevent or reduce adverse environmental impacts to Appalachian streams. The document also clarifies lines of responsibility among the agencies in order to improve compliance with and enforcement of the Clean Water Act and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

This will be a teleconference. Reporters who are interested in taking part should contact David Hewitt of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (202) 761-0289.

SUBJECT: Teleconference to announce the availability of a draft environmental impact statement that recommends new action to enhance protection for Appalachian streams from the effects associated with mountaintop coal mining.

TIME: May 29 at 1:30 p.m. EDT

PARTICIPANTS: Mark Sudol and Kathy Trott, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mike Robinson, U.S. Office of Surface Mining; and Greg Peck, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency